

Status of Claims

Claims 1 to 10 have been canceled. Claims 11 to 23 are pending in the application. Of these claims, claims 13, 18 and 21 to 23 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 11, 12 and 14 to 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Read in view of Kobayashi et al and Shearon. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Read in view of Kobayashi et al and Shearon, as applied to claim 11, and further in view of German publication 944919. Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over German publication 944919 in view of Read and Shearon. Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Read in view of German publication 944919 or Obenshain, and in view of Shearon.